

CHINA MAIL

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CHIANG'S FORCE PUSHES NORTH

CHUNGKING, DEC. 4. AS CHIANG KAI-SHEK'S TROOPS ROLLED NORTHWARD THROUGH MANCHURIA, ALONG THE ROUTE TO MUKDEN, WITHOUT ANY REPORTS OF EFFECTIVE OPPOSITION, CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY SAID THE FIRST GOVERNMENT TROOPS TO BE FLOWN INTO MANCHURIA WILL START THEIR AIRPLANE TREK NEXT WEEK.

REPORTS YESTERDAY TOLD OF NATIONALIST TROOPS REACHING TAIHUSHAN ON THE ADVANCE ALONG THE PEIPING-MUKDEN RAILROAD, WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY 80 MILES FROM MUKDEN.

Final Stage

WASHINGTON, DEC. 4. Authoritative sources here today stated that the Anglo-American financial talks have entered the final stage and may be completed this week.

With the participation of Sir Edmund Bridges, Permanent Secretary to the Treasury, prospects of an agreement are increasing. —Reuter.

Answer Wanted Yes Or No

WASHINGTON, DEC. 4. THE RESULT OF THE BRITISH AMERICAN FINANCIAL NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON WEDNESDAY OR THURSDAY.

WHETHER IT IS A SUCCESS OR FAILURE.

It is expected that an announcement will be made in the British House of Commons probably by the Prime Minister, Mr. Attlee, simultaneously with the Washington announcement.

The British insistence on the utmost speed in the completion of the talks is due to the need for an early decision in the House of Commons on the Road Scheme before Parliament adjourns for the Christmas recess. —Reuter.

FINAL PROPOSALS

London, Dec. 4. Prime Minister Clement Attlee and his Cabinet today considered the draft of the final proposals under which the United States would make a loan to Britain.

It is understood that the principal difference remaining between the two governments was whether Britain could give in return payments if she experiences a hard year financially. —Associated Press.

CHUNGKING WINTER SETS IN

CHUNGKING, DEC. 4. THE HARD WINTER PREDICTED FOR CHUNGKING HAS SET IN.

Although the war is over, living conditions for the population of 1,300,000 inhabitants are as bad today as they were in the worst years of the war.

Coal is scarce and expensive and most of the homes and offices in this hill city are unheated.

Slight familiarity during the war years are being reconnected.

Government employees huddle in their overcoats in cold offices rubbing their hands together for warmth and in most cases dreaming of Peking, Nanking or Shanghai next Spring. —Associated Press.

MME. CHEN TO JOIN HUSBAND

FUKUOKA, DEC. 4. MADAME CHEN KUNG-PO, WHOSE HUSBAND HAS BEEN CALLED CHINA'S "NO. 2 TRAITOR" CAME HERE EN ROUTE TO SHANGHAI TO REJOIN HER HUSBAND.

She said she had not been associated with Chinese politics since she served in the Propaganda Section of the National Revolutionary Army under Chiang Kai-shek in 1926 when her husband headed Chiang's political section.

She declined to discuss politics and said she had no plans except to rejoin her husband, who succeeded Wang Ching-wai as puppet President of the Nanking Government. "Our future will depend on the attitude of the Central Government," she said. —Associated Press.

4,000 Dead

KARACHI, DEC. 4. Four thousand have perished, forty thousand are homeless and several bridges were washed away as a result of a tidal wave, which struck a hundred mile coastal belt to the Northwest of Karachi on November 28. This was due to a submarine earthquake, according to relief workers who have just returned from the scene. —Reuter.

Manila Bank Hold-Up

MANILA, DEC. 4. FOUR FILIPINOS HELD UP TWO CLERKS OF THE PHILIPPINE BRANCH OF THE BANK OF COMMUNICATIONS AND ESCAPED IN A JEEP WITH 413,000 PESOS (206,500 U.S. DOLLARS) — COLONEL J. P. HOLLAND, CHIEF OF POLICE IN MANILA, ANNOUNCED TODAY.

The robbery was the biggest in Manila's history and occurred in the unarmed clerks were transferring the funds to the National City Bank.

The police said that protection during the transfer had not been asked by the Bank of Communications, which is the second largest Chinese bank in Manila. —Associated Press.

Soviet Relaxation Of Censorship

LONDON, DEC. 4. SOVIET CENSORSHIP HAS NOW BEEN RELAXED TO THE POINT WHERE IT IS A MERE FORMALITY, AS LONG AS CORRESPONDENTS REPORT FAIRLY AND OBJECTIVELY.

POLITICAL OBSERVERS IN LONDON AND MOSCOW ARE INCLINED TO LINK THIS DEVELOPMENT WITH THE RECENT SYMPTOMS OF SOVIET WILLINGNESS TO LIFT THE "IRON CURTAIN" BETWEEN THE EAST AND WEST.

Increased Soviet delegations in international congresses, more freedom for political parties and the appeal by the President of the Soviet Union for Soviet youth to study in foreign countries are indicative of this move.

The occasion for this relaxation in Russian censorship appears to have been furnished by the recent collective protest by British and American press and radio correspondents in Moscow, and was followed up by much foreign speculation about Generalissimo Stalin's prolonged absence from Moscow.

The correspondents' letter of protest, which was addressed to the Soviet Foreign Minister, complained that the censors were partly ill-qualified men,

whose decision varied and that messages were delayed and destroyed. It also pointed out that this created a distrust of news from Moscow and impeded understanding of the Soviet Union in Britain and America.

RECIPROCITY

On Nov. 1, correspondents were told by the Soviet Foreign Office that the Foreign Commissar would give no consideration to their complaints, because they lacked substance.

On the evening of Nov. 7, however, during an official reception, the Foreign Commissar was reported to have approached an American correspondent, saying: "I know you correspondents want to wipe out Russian censorship. What would you say if I agreed to reciprocity?" The correspondent was delighted, and a toast to mutual understanding was drunk.

WIDER SCOPE

A few days later, correspondents noticed that the censors were giving them wider scope for comment on Soviet affairs, and were becoming more cooperative, and unfounded rumours about internal Soviet developments began to diminish.

Correspondents hope they will soon be granted facilities to travel inside the Soviet Union, thus removing the restriction that keeps them tied to Moscow, and be able to give first-hand reports of the nation-wide preparations for the first post-war Soviet elections. —Reuter.

TRANS-ATLANTIC AIR RATES

London, Dec. 4. The Civil Aviation Ministry said today it was ready to approve any trans-Atlantic air travel rate which is jointly acceptable by all competing airlines.

It said that the amount charged was not an issue.

The Ministry declined to comment on the report that Pan-American Airlines offered to re-instate the pre-war rate. —Associated Press.

CHINA'S DELEGATES TO CONFERENCE

Chungking, Dec. 4. China has appointed Dr. Wellington Koo, Ambassador in Britain, and Dr. Victor Koo, former Political Vice-Minister as Foreign Affairs as delegates on the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations Organization. It was announced here today. —Reuter.

DRAMATIC SCENES AT SHAMSHUIPO

POINTING DRAMATICALLY AT A JAPANESE OFFICER ON AN IDENTITY PARADE HELD YESTERDAY AT SHAMSHUIPO CAMP, A DISTRESSED CHINESE WOMAN CRIED "THAT MAN EXECUTED MY HUSBAND!"

THE PARADE OF MORE THAN SIXTY JAPANESE PRISONERS-OF-WAR HAD BEEN ORDERED FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECURING IDENTIFICATIONS OF THE MEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MURDER OF A NUMBER OF CHINESE VILLAGERS AT SILVER MINE BAY ON LAN TAO ON AUGUST 19.

About eighty islanders, had been brought by boat and motor bus to Shamshupo and one by one they inspected the parade.

Sixteen Japanese, who were identified and accused by the islanders, were taken to Stanley Jail to await trial.

All except two of the witnesses accused the Japanese company commander, who stood in his uniform at the head of the parade, though he and his fellow-officer had been told that they could remove their badges of rank and take any place they liked in the parade.

Each time a witness accused him and the naval interpreter translated the accusation, the company commander answered "I admit it. I have already admitted it."

One of the witnesses, Wong Yee, showed the marks of wire bonds still on his throat and wrists and told how he had been bound with wire in front of a newly dug grave and left there all night.

FORCED TO WATCH

Some of his fellow villagers, whom the Japanese had seized after a skirmish with some Chinese Communists, were not lucky.

Their heads were struck off with swords. Every one of the eighty islanders who inspected the parade yesterday had been forced by the Japanese company commander to watch the atrocities.

One by one they walked along the ranks of prisoners, stepping to touch a Japanese here and there and declaring: "This man killed people." "He killed Chung Chau!" "This man was present." "He killed my brother." Two witnesses had to be restrained from attacking prisoners.

Captain E. R. Barrett, Intelligence Corps, and Chief Inspector Tyler, of the Hong Kong Police, were in charge of the parade, which was conducted with scrupulous fairness.

The Japanese were first told exactly what was going to happen. It was explained that they could at any time change their positions in the parade, question witnesses and reply to accusations.

Only one witness at a time was brought onto the parade ground. Those who had not yet inspected the parade were not allowed to meet those who had already inspected it and the two groups were given lunch at the Pakho Restaurant at different times.

JUSTICE IN OPERATION

Totalitarian methods of dealing with enemies do not satisfy the British sense of justice. Justice, as opposed to rough justice, takes time.

But action is constantly being taken on a very large number of depositions and denunciations regarding Japanese crimes in Hong Kong and a long list of accused who are waiting trial.

The murdered islanders of Lan Tao and other victims of Japanese barbarism will not go unavenged.

Whose Navy Am I In?

MOST PEOPLE IN HONG KONG FIND IT DIFFICULT TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN SAILORS IN UNIFORM.

ONE WAY IS TO NOTE THE STARS IN THE CORNERS OF THE BROAD COLLAR, DRAPED ON THE SHOULDERS.

THE STARS, OF COURSE, ARE IN THE CASE OF THE U.S. SAILORS.

V. S. B. Tate, a Chief Specialist in the United States Naval Reserve, writes in the American magazine Atlantic on the similarity of the uniforms worn by the British and American Navy men. He set himself the job of finding out why, and this is what he says:

"I learned that the whole ensemble is patterned after the uniform of the British sailor; that the triple stripes on the collar and cuffs of the jumper commemorate the three great English naval battles—the Defeat of the Spanish Armada (1588), the Battle of the Nile (1798), and Trafalgar (1805); and that the black neckerchief is worn in mourning for England's inspiring naval hero, Lord Nelson (1758-1805).

"How nice, I thought; how simply dandy. The English are a splendid people, admire them and their traditions immensely. I really do. I recall being thrilled by the historic accounts of those three magnificent victories."

"Shades of Mayrant! Whose Navy am I in?"

The Senate today rejected the proposed amendment to the United Nations legislation which would have required a two-thirds Senate approval to agreement.

It was notified by the President for allocating American troops to be used by the United Nations Security Council. —Associated Press.

Hurley's Case

Washington, Dec. 4. Major-General Patrick Hurley will get his requested opportunity to discuss publicly the reasons for his recent resignation as ambassador to China at an open hearing of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Wednesday.

Originally the committee intended to hear Hurley behind closed doors, to hear his accusations of blundering U.S. policy in the Far East, but he objected to any secrecy in the hearing. —Associated Press.

Jock Gets A Lucky Break

LONDON, DEC. 4. A SCOTS PRIVATE TRAVELLING HOME FROM PALESTINE VIA ITALY FOUND HIMSELF TREATED AS "A VERY IMPORTANT PERSON."

He crossed France in a special train compartment decorated with British and French flags. At Dieppe he was entertained at the new N.A.A.F.I., whose completion was speeded up for his arrival.

Reason was that Private Jock Bruce, 8th Gordon Highlanders, of Nelson Terrace, Leith, Scotland, was the 500,000th man to travel on the Medco rail route to Britain.

Medco is the name given to the rail route across the Continent to Calais which is used by leave parties. —Reuter.

LIBERTY SHIP IN DISTRESS

New York, Dec. 4. The Liberty ship "Henry Ward Beecher" with 541 homeward bound American troops aboard today radioed for assistance from a point 340 miles north-east of Bermuda.

The vessel, bound from Marseilles to Norfolk, Virginia, is said to have dropped a propeller.

A spokesman of the Third Naval District here said he presumed the ship would be dispatched promptly from Bermuda and he believed several ships were standing by to lend aid. —Associated Press.

Journalist's Complaint

London, Dec. 4. The worst form of censorship is being clamped down on correspondents in Batavia by the South-East Asia Command Authorities.

Writes Noel Monks from Batavia in today's issue of the "Daily Mail".

Noel Monks adds that no correspondent is allowed even to talk to any British general and "we are unable to get either factual information or 'background' from any source other than a Lieutenant-Colonel."

"At press conferences the answer to every question is 'I do not know'." —Reuter.

NOT AN OPTIMIST

Kansas City, Dec. 4. Major-General Claire Chennault today asked a thorough investigation in connection with General Hurley's charges against some career diplomats of sabotaging American foreign policy in the Orient.

Asked if the appointment of General Marshall might go far toward bringing about a strong unified China, Chennault replied: "Some very able men have given the problem their best efforts and they have failed." —Associated Press.

Troops Who Walked Off: Statement

LONDON, DEC. 4. THE WAR MINISTER, MR. J. J. LAWSON, GAVE A WRITTEN REPLY IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS TODAY TO MR. G. ROGERS (LABOUR, KENSINGTON NORTH), WHO ASKED WHY 400 TROOPS REFUSED TO EMBARK ON THE TROOPSHIP "JOHANN DE WITT" AT SOUTHAMPTON.

MR. LAWSON SAYS THE INSTANCE AROSE FROM AN UNFORTUNATE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS AND WAS NOT ENTIRELY DUE TO CONDITIONS ON THE TROOPSHIP.

It originated with about 1,900 men who had expected to return to the C.M.F. by air after 28 days leave.

Some of the men left the ship complaining of the accommodation and food, but after investigation by the authorities it was agreed that the accommodation was adequate and the menu for future meals most satisfactory.

Altogether 699 men were left behind and had since been returned overland.

No further instances of complaints occurred and from then on the behaviour of the troops concerned was reported as completely satisfactory.

Accommodation on ships is at present on an authority basis owing to the colossal flow of men on repatriation or leave. But there was nothing to show that accommodation was below standard.

Mr. Lawson added he had judged it proper not to take disciplinary measures on this particular occasion. —Reuter.

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FIVE ATTENDANCE TO READING TO EXHORTATION TO DOCTRINE

(L. Timothy 4:13)

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A further notice will be issued when the power for domestic use is available.

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Hong Kong,

28th November, 1945.

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England's Hospitality

The extracts published in this page from the letter of an ex-internee now in Australia make disquieting reading. Not less so because his English correspondent, responsible for the complaint normally holds a responsible business post in Hong Kong and is a sober-minded, balanced individual who would certainly be sure of his facts. It receives the support too of information obtained from other sources, one letter carrying the key phrase, "I gather some more undesirable are coming on here." And so it seems we are beginning to discover how the policy of H.M. Government, so carefully explained by Mr. D. M. Man, of the Colonial Office to internees as they were being shipped out of Stanley, is working out in practice. Those people fortunate enough to have a home to go to, but without means of maintenance, are thrown as unemployed paupers on the mercy of the local public assistance authorities, and expected to "work their passage" after a fortnight's recuperation from their internment experiences. Those who have neither homes nor means of maintenance—women and children, for instance—are treated as "undesirables" and placed in the workhouse, or its Ministry of Health equivalent. These bands, who have arrived in England to rejoin wives from whom they have been separated for five years, can live on their wives' earnings, in cases where she has been compelled to work to keep herself. Altogether, it presents a picture about which any comment at all compels a conscious effort in restraint. It is strictly true, of course, that the British Government owes these ex-internees nothing. It is strictly true that there is nothing in their circumstances which insists on the desirability of any special effort by way of hospitality. They are merely the victims of the pressure of war, which stripped them of their homes and their incomes, but so many thousands of others are in like case. It is true, equally, that Government did not actually counsel anyone to go, and time again, that every body should go, for the sake of their health and their strength, and that it was the wish of the Commander-in-Chief that all should go, especially the women and children from Stanley. At the same time, Mr. D. M. Man gave certain assurances, and it is perhaps appropriate to quote from his statement on repatriation. He said, for example, "The majority no doubt desire to go to the United Kingdom and the question uppermost in their minds is what is to happen to them when they get there. A shipping list will have been sent on ahead and the next of kin, friends or relatives will have been advised of the impending arrival of the repatriate and asked if they can provide accommodation. Those who have no friends or relatives in the United Kingdom or who do not want to avail themselves of other people's hospitality (he might have said, did not wish to impose themselves on other people) will be housed by arrangement with the Ministry of Health until such time as they can make their own arrangements. Those people who have no means of maintenance will receive from H.M. Government a weekly allowance at a rate which, while not lavish, will be adequate for an ordinary scale of life. In addition, they will receive free medical attention and certain other benefits of which details cannot be given at the moment, but which will be of great assistance in setting up house. In addition, the resources of the Far Eastern Relief Fund, which is organized with influential backing, will be available to make life easier both financially and as regards re-employment; and so on to those who find themselves at low ebb. This fund has been dispensing money and in many cases paying insur-

Shocks For H. K. Ex-Internees

A WELL-KNOWN HONG KONG RESIDENT WRITES TO THE "CHINA MAIL" FROM AUSTRALIA, UNDER DATE NOVEMBER 26. "HERE IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE, CONTRAST BETWEEN TREATMENT OF EX-INTERNEES IN ENGLAND AND AUSTRALIA BASED ON INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM—AND MY OWN EXPERIENCES."

"DON'T GIVE NAMES BUT HERE ARE EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS:—ON ARRIVAL IN ENGLAND EX-INTERNEES WERE ADVISED THAT ANYONE IN NEED OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SHOULD APPLY TO THE LOCAL OFFICES OF THE ASSISTANCE BOARD (EX-BOARD OF GUARDIANS)."

"It was something of a shock to find that one had to go through the same procedure as an out-of-work man in England; that the amount for a man with wife and child was 37s. a week, plus a few shillings more according to rent, and that acceptance of this would mean inspectors visiting to check up domestic circumstances, and that after a week or two, I would be expected to take on any clerical work that might be offered me."

"On learning that my wife was working and earning three pounds a week, they washed their hands of me entirely and informed me that I was not even entitled to the above-mentioned, or to a clothing allowance which the Area Superintendent had undertaken to go into. I think also that Government should do something more for internees in the matter of clothing. I received a suit, an overcoat and shoes at once, and various bits of underclothing from time to time. Again, eyes and teeth after three and a half years at Stanley require attention."

Reply from business man in London to whom this was addressed: "I deeply regret the ungrateful welcome you have received at the hands of our Government. They have paid over to the Far Eastern Relief Committee, fifty thousand pounds who have acquired another fifty thousand from the Lord Mayor of London's Fund, with which the Committee are assisting internees arriving Home without sufficient means. I suppose the Government consider they have done their duty by the internees."

"BUSINESS MEN PROTEST" (In this particular case, the employers have been able to borrow money from the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation to float this internee.)

The same correspondence shows that the business men in London are getting gravely concerned about the "six months' non-individual trading policy" for Hong Kong and that the Colonial Office is taking up the cudgels with the War Office on their behalf. (The change of policy was, of course, announced in Hong Kong about ten days ago.)

Now for the Australian picture: Note: the first item is probably from U.K., viz. Five pounds sterling per head in H.M.S. Vindex.

2. No bill presented on Vindex for cigarettes and drinks. Possibly by courtesy of the ward-room officers.

3. On arrival a big welcome, including a band.

4. Taken to good private hotels and ordered double rations of controlled foods. No charge for accommodation or food.

5. Given 200 clothing coupons and ration cards.

6. Through the Red Cross, the Government supplied a Twenty-five Pounds order on clothes for clothing. Good shops, ready made, but good material and cut. We signed an undertaking to repay if able to do so and if called upon. Officials conveyed that such a call was most unlikely.

7. Free tickets to Australian destination.

8. Free continuous medical treatment, where living. Also eye specialist treatment and dental treatment and operations, where necessary, promised when individuals are fit to undergo such treatment.

9. Internees met at stations at break in journey and helped on the way.

10. I was hung up at this point because not having had to apply for relief myself, I did not know what is the local equivalent of the Public Assistance Board. On enquiry, I am informed that the rates are the same as in U.K. (subject to differences in exchange) under arrangements agreed upon by the U.K. Com-

monwealth and Hong Kong Governments, and that Reeves (H.K. Government representative in Australia) pays any grants approved.

At any rate, the Public Assistance scandal is avoided here.

D. M. Man of the Colonial Office told me that people would receive support sufficient to enable them to live in a quiet way, but 37s. hardly seems to be implementation of that promise.

A letter from another ex-internee from England contains the following: "Every promise made to us in Hong Kong is being or has already been reneged. I want you to send me copies of the various promises made to us about conditions of payment, financial support, schooling of children, etc."

L. Singam, who was charged with being in possession of 16 rounds of ammunition in Murray Road on November 28, was discharged by Mr. C. Y. Kwan at the Summary Military Court yesterday, on application by Chinese the Court that accused was a soldier of the Chinese Army. Accused was to be handed over to the Chinese Military Mission.

Protest Against Fish Sale System

FIVE CHINESE AND A JUVENILE WERE CHARGED BEFORE MR. C. Y. KWAN AT THE SUMMARY MILITARY COURT YESTERDAY WITH DEALING WHOLESALE IN SALT FISH WITHOUT A PERMIT FROM THE CONTROLLER OF FISHERY IN EASTERN STREET ON SUNDAY.

The accused were Tsui Fuk-chiu, Tsui Sau, Lau Wan-yiu, Leung Pak, Lai Chin-shing and a juvenile. Mr. Hin Shing Lo pleaded guilty on behalf of all accused.

Sergeant Pockson for the prosecution said that at about 6 a.m. on Sunday Chinese Police constable No. 17, on patrol in Connaught Road West near Eastern Street, saw salt fish being landed from a junk alongside the quay and taken to three shops belonging to the accused.

The Controller of Fishery had asked that a serious view be taken of the case as there had been complaints from other dealers that people were selling fish outside Kennedy Market.

Lieut. (F) A. Collings of the Fishery Department, stated that under the present system it was illegal to do business outside the Kennedy Town fish market unless special permission was obtained.

Fishermen had been told to sell their catch through the representatives of the Kennedy Town market, and it would be sold to retailers by auction. Retailers were then given a permit through an application, which was free of charge.

THE PRACTICE
Mr. Lo told the Court that it had been the practice for fishing centres such as Cheung Chau, Shaikwan and Aberdeen to sell their catch directly to wholesalers. They had already lodged a complaint with the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the Secretary of Chinese Affairs, stating they would lose trade if the present system were enforced. They were anxious to resume their old direct connections with wholesale dealers and asked for a technical offence to be registered.

Mr. Kwan remarked that the law had been enforced in the Prosecution, and the Court had to pass a sentence. He imposed a fine of \$50 on each of the defendants.

FINANCE FOR MANILA
Washington, Dec. 4. The House approved unanimously yesterday and sent to the Senate a bill authorizing the Export-Import Bank to extend operations to include the Philippines. The bank aids in financing exports and imports of commodities.

The banking committee said early reconstruction of the Philippines and restoration and expansion of trade with the islands will be mutually beneficial to the Philippines and the United States. —Associated Press.

THE KING OF SIAM
Calcutta, Dec. 4. King Ananda Mahidol of Siam is taking off from here tomorrow on the last trip of his journey to Bangkok.

Prominent Siamers residents of Calcutta called on the King at Government house here, —Router.

REHABILITATION IN GREECE

Athens, Dec. 4. Negotiations between the Greek government and the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration came to a close Monday and it was understood from a reliable source that U.N.R.R.A. undertook to import \$200,000 worth of supplies in 1946.

The major part of the supplies intended for rehabilitation work and includes mainly tractors, ploughs, livestock, fertilizers, machinery and raw materials. The balance consists of foodstuffs rich in proteins.

During negotiations it was made clear that U.N.R.R.A. can not go on indefinitely with assistance to liberated countries which must return to normal economic conditions. —Associated Press.

BOY REMANDED

Another juvenile appeared before Lt. Nigel at Kowloon yesterday for stealing private rickshaw belonging to Dr. Yu Chiu-kwong.

Accused, 16 years of age, pleaded guilty and said he stole the rickshaw to make money.

Appealing to the magistrate to impose a fine, accused was asked much he could afford to pay. He replied: "I can borrow about \$20 from a friend." The value of the rickshaw was \$200. The court decided to summon his parents and the case was adjourned for 24 hours.

DECISION TO USE ATOMIC BOMB

Washington, Dec. 4. Dr. Vannevar Bush, United States scientist, today told the United States Atom Energy Committee that the decision to use the new incendiary bomb against Japan was made personally by the late President Roosevelt.

Later he told correspondents that the decision to use the atomic bomb against Japan was made by President Truman at the Potsdam conference. —Router.

A SCOLD
Sir,—In reply to Chockered, whose letter on reserved seats is admirable, why not take it a step further? Four companies of E.N.S.A. are at present touring the Colony. If I am not mistaken, this equals the number to be found at any one time in Burma throughout the whole campaign.

Why are they here? They were conspicuous by their absence in Imperial days. Writers of years have over the past couple to S.E.A. complained, begging that the money they drain away be spent on procuring projectors.

Hong Kong is just another high spot in their extensive touring. Are they wanted here or is the 14th Army now in Malaya so well catered for regarding entertainment as ourselves, with cinemas, dancing, skating, etc. that there is no need for their presence amongst them?

NAY MALLUM.
WRONG END-OF-STICK
Sir,—I'm afraid that "Chockered" will complain in the "China Mail" of the seating arrangements at the N.A.A.F.I. Canton Club for the E.N.S.A. Shows, has got hold of the wrong end of the stick. There is a centre gangway in the hall and the first two rows on the Right Hand Side are reserved for officers (not for individuals). O.R.s have therefore an equal share of the front rows. Once this accommodation is full the officers take their chance with everyone else.

I would like "Chockered" to realize that once the extensive repairs to the Star Theatre are completed, and the shows are given there, he will find things much easier. Incidentally, if he comes to the "Star" house at 6 o'clock at the Canton Club he will find plenty of accommodation without much queuing.

The present arrangements in the Canton Club are temporary, are welcome.

WHO WAS ANDRA?
Sir,—With swirling of kilt, melody of pipe, swilling of Scotch, and thoughts of Haggis, we assisted our Scot brothers to sing loudly the praises of Saint Andrew.

As the wine flowed so did the conversation, until a seeker of the truth asked, "And who was Saint Andrew?" A hush fell upon the assembled multitude, for not one present could give account of the great man. And conversation waxed exceedingly upon his antecedents eventually arriving at Mr. Andrews Hymn, that masterpiece of R. Kipling's, wherein is mentioned "Gay Street in Hong Kong."

This entitled to divert conversation into more knowledgeable channels, but again this morning, with the sun, arose the question, "But who was Saint Andrew?" Can any kind reader settle this question and thereby bring to a conclusion an argument liable to continue until the event of the next noteworthy cause for celebration?

Yours faithfully,
T. COOPER.

The second of a series of informal weekly talks at the Hong Kong Catholic Centre, King's Buildings, will be given this afternoon at 6.30 p.m. when Rev. J. M. M. Alton, H.K.V.D.C., will speak on "Historic Macao." All are welcome.

Kowloon's Grand Central Hotel Changing Hands

KOWLOON'S "HUB OF THE UNIVERSE," THE R.A.F. TRANSIT HOTEL IN MODY ROAD, IS ABOUT TO LOSE PART OF ITS MANAGING CREW, WHO ARE DUE FINALLY TO PASS A NIGHT THERE AS GUESTS AND TO DEPART IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING FOR KAT TAK, HOME, AND ITS COVETED "DEMOB."

IN CHARGE OF THE HOTEL MANAGEMENT SINCE ITS INSTITUTION ON OCTOBER 10 HAS BEEN F.O.R.S. RICHES, WHO HAD NEVER UNDERTAKEN HOTEL MANAGEMENT IN THE PAST AND IS NOT PARTICULARLY KEEN ON TAKING UP ANY SUCH A JOB IN CIVVY LIFE.

"Happy" Riches is a Spitfire pilot, attached to 132 Squadron. He has 1,600 flying hours to his credit, one damaged and one probable. He has flown over France and Germany, but not in the Pacific Theatre.

He does not know what sent him into hotel management. The probable explanation is "exigencies of the moment."

However, R.A.F. men are often sent into theatres of action that are removed from actual plotting of a plane, so "Happy" Riches took his medicine and went into hotel-management. 2,000 GUESTS

He has, since October 10, successfully managed both the R.A.F. Transit Hotel (formerly the Arlington), and the R.A.F. Services Hotel (formerly the Harbour View). The institution in Mody Road has, up to the present, put up 2,000 guests.

These include not only R.A.F. crews, but also every demobbed or transferred officer. N.C.O. ranker and rating who have yet flown out of Hong Kong, ex-P.O.W.s, repatriates, and even the feminine element, comprising the Red Cross, U.N.R.R.A., and every other organisation with feminine help attached to its staff.

MIXED COMPANY
The night our reporter was there, a Bishop, a Soviet trade representative, an ex-P.O.W. and a naval gentleman were sharing the same room. A total of 120, comprising seven crew and their passengers were awaiting the hour to bid either "goodbye" or "adieu" to a bird's eye view of the Colony.

It is not improbable that in one night the Transit Hotel may hold crews just come in from Leyte, Saigon, Tokyo, Hainan, Kunming, Calcutta, Singapore, Shanghai and Kunming. One R.A.F. man just in from Tokyo has a glass of beer from another just in from Calcutta.

The Hotel has two standing institutions. The first is its collection of "Pin-Up Girls." This, the management brags, is one of the finest anywhere. There are new contributions every week. Favourite is Ingrid.

COTTON FUTURES
New York, Dec. 4. Cotton futures were firm near the best levels of the day as a result of continued mill and commission house buying against textile orders and scattered local demand which limited hedge offerings.

There was interest in the Washington reports of the cotton shippers meeting with the Department of Agriculture on plans for financing and sale of cotton to Japan and Germany as a means of liquidation of the Commodity Credit Corporation cotton stockpile.

December cotton was quoted at 24.50 per pound.—Associated Press.

BREAD SALE CASE
A 32-year-old woman, Yue Suk-chun, of No. 7, Graham Street, was charged before Mr. C. Y. Kwan at the Summary Military Court yesterday with selling a round of bread at 80 cents, 50 cents in excess of the controlled price.

Accused pleaded not guilty saying that her small son bought the loaf of bread for his own consumption, and had no intention of selling it.

Mr. J. G. Marshall, Inspector of Supplies, Transport, Industry, appeared in Court and was told that he had no authority to prosecute in the case, which was adjourned until 11.30 to-day.

"BIG HAUL IN ARMED ROBBERY"
Three men armed with revolvers entered No. 38, Bonham Strand West, ground floor, and escaped with \$4,000 in cash at about 7.10 p.m. last night.

The folds of the Fuk Luen Shing Firm, were on the point of closing down, when the men entered and held them up with revolvers. They obtained the key of the safe and took the money.

HARBOUR DIVERS
A Harbour Office notification warns that the s.s. "King Salvador" will be operating divers on a wreck at the chartered position of No. 3 Buoy from Wednesday, Dec. 6 to Saturday, Dec. 8, both days inclusive; and all craft are instructed to keep clear and to reduce speed when passing this area.

The Real Problem Between Britain And America

ANOTHER ANALYSIS

Mr. Churchill's description of Lense-Lend in the dark days of 1941 as the most unselfish act in history was very natural. At the time, to the hard-pressed, anxious people of this country, the phrase seemed literally true. But men wrestling for their country's life against overwhelming force cannot always see things in their full perspective; their vision is intense but, of necessity, confined. The inauguration of Lense-Lend was not dictated merely by American generosity. It was dictated by American interests. Now that Lense-Lend has been so suddenly and dramatically withdrawn as an aid to the United States, it is important that we should remember this.

Taking a broad historical view, there are several acts in history which seem more "unselfish" than Lense-Lend. Which, for instance, involved the greater comparative sacrifice: the British guarantee to Poland in 1939 or the American aid to Lense-Lend in 1941? By the latter the United States, a far richer country than twentieth-century Britain, generously offered to supply raw materials and manufactures to those who were fighting Germany without trouble, and, in effect, to the belligerent nations of freedom, with whom she sympathized and whose cause she was fighting. "We will give you the arms to defend yourselves and we will do the fighting and we will see that you do not lack the material wherewithal with which to fight." This was rather a lot to ask of those who were fighting Germany without trouble, and, in effect, to the belligerent nations of freedom, with whom she sympathized and whose cause she was fighting. "We will give you the arms to defend yourselves and we will do the fighting and we will see that you do not lack the material wherewithal with which to fight." This was rather a lot to ask of those who were fighting Germany without trouble, and, in effect, to the belligerent nations of freedom, with whom she sympathized and whose cause she was fighting.

But the British guarantee to Poland in 1939, like the guarantee to Belgium in an earlier war, was of another order. The British offered to defend Poland against the Nazi aggression not merely with their financial and industrial resources, but with their blood and very existence. They stated their readiness to go to war themselves if Germany violated Poland's western frontiers, though by doing so they incurred dangers which they had not then the arms to resist. In 1940 they all paid the price of their chivalrous generosity by their own blood. Had Hitler thrown his weight against them in the autumn of 1939 or even in the early summer of 1940 before their eight-gun Spitfires and Hurricanes were ready, their offer to Poland would have been their death warrant. As it is, in pursuance of that offer the British nation has sacrificed far more in

comparison than the United States. Her losses in man-power have been, man for man, three times as heavy, and her losses in material comfort, economic security and worldly power immeasurably greater. America has, on the whole, emerged politically and economically stronger from the global war for freedom. Britain, on the contrary, is far weaker than she was before. She has lost the flower of two generations; she has sacrificed all her overseas investments; she has incurred colossal and almost unpayable debts; she is shabby, ill-housed, hungry and with small prospect of being anything else for years to come. Only her splendid spirit and her matchless record secure her her unenvied place at the forefront of the world councils. Thanks to her courage and uncalculating constancy in freedom's cause, her credit is even higher than it was before the war.

Yet it would be mistake to rate Britain's generosity in voluntarily going to war over a distant foreign frontier too high. In doing so, like the United States with her gesture of Lense-Lend, she was defending her own interests. Those interests, like those of the United States, were two-fold. She could not stand by idly and watch further outrages on human liberty without endangering her own. And she could not allow further violations of other nations' frontiers without ultimately imperilling her own frontiers. She took her bold and generous plunge because she knew it was better to fight with allies in 1939 than to fight alone against a still more powerful foe in 1945. When President Roosevelt made his bold and statesmanlike gesture in 1941 he was actuated by identically similar motives. The war is now over; the Nazi menace and the Japanese have been defeated. Britain is no longer fighting for Poland, and America is no longer holding the purse-strings for Britain. Both have saved their own interests and with them the cause of human freedom. The only difference between them in this respect is that whereas Britain voluntarily drew the sword before she was directly attacked, America did not do so until she had been attacked. This was due not to any inferiority in American idealism, but to the slower tempo of the American constitution. Thanks to the untrammeled supremacy of Parliament under our elastic system of government, our rulers were able to put the national and self-interest inspired idealism of Britain into prompt and immediate effect; President Roosevelt and those who thought like him were compelled to proceed more slowly. The real problem which now arises between Britain and America is not to secure in dollars which behaved most generously or which has made the greater sacrifices for the

common cause, but to agree on a policy of relationship which will serve the real interests of both nations. And, as both countries are democracies in which action and policy are necessarily dependent on public opinion, such a policy must command itself not merely to the informed few, but to the many in both lands. Any policy which seems unjust to the ordinary man in either country is bound to fail.

What are the elementary needs of Britain and U.S.A.? Strategically they are manifestly dependent on one another; one is the fighting outpost, the other the base-line of parliamentary democracy. Economically, their interests are far less obviously interdependent. The United States is a self-sufficient economic unit whose people can support themselves by raising their own food and essential raw materials and by taking in the rest of the world. To them foreign trade is a luxury, albeit a very cherished one, since it is this which offers the opportunity for that fabulous surplus personal spending power which is still the material dream of every American. To us, foreign trade is, unhappily, an absolute necessity, for we can neither at present raise all the food we require nor supply our factories with all their basic requirements. Until we can rebuild a more stable policy, we must export or die. For this reason our bargaining power in matters for foreign trade is much weaker than that of America; we cannot pick and choose; we cannot yet have certain assets, and the United States certain limitations which profoundly affect our mutual position. The traders and financiers of the United States can only afford to lose the markets of Great Britain and the British Empire at the expense of bidding farewell to their own dream of ever-expanding private profit. And we, out of sheer necessity, can only afford to allow them those markets if the immense market of the United States is itself thrown open to our exporters. The more clearly the United States leans to us to open our markets to her traders—and, as we have sacrificed our dollar reserves to defeat Germany, we cannot buy from her on other terms—the more essential it becomes that the sole means we have of retaining such loans should be placed at our disposal. Just as our own markets were at the disposal of our debtors during the nineteenth century, when we were the great credit, loan-lending country of the world. The policy is not ours to make but America's; she can have it either way. But she cannot choose both. Either she can do as we did in the nineteenth century: grow rich by lending to ourselves and all the world while removing her tariff walls and opening her ports to the merchandise of her debtors; or she can fall back on her own self-sufficiency and build up a mercantile policy of her own choosing within her own wide borders. But if she chooses the latter, she must leave the rest of the world, including ourselves, to do likewise; for in that event we cannot continue to exist unless we do.

Singapore Conference On Java

BATAVIA, DEC. 4. THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA, LORD LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN, HAS CALLED THE ALLIED COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN THE DUTCH EAST INDIES, LIEUTENANT-GENERAL CHRISTIANSON, AND REAR-ADMIRAL WILFRED PATTERSON TO SINGAPORE FOR A MEETING ON WEDNESDAY TO DISCUSS THE JAVA SITUATION. ACCORDING TO UNCONFIRMED REPORTS QUOTED BY THE NETHERLANDS NEWS AGENCY.

The Lieutenant-Governor of the Dutch East Indies, Dr. Hubertus van Mook, may also attend the meeting, the report adds. A meeting is also expected here soon, the Agency adds, between the Dutch and the Indonesian Republican Government, in spite of the fact that the Indonesian Prime Minister, Sultan Sjahjair, yesterday said that "such a meeting could hardly be fruitful".—Reuter.

AKAR BOYCOTT OF ZIONISTS

Cairo, Dec. 3. The Arab League Council, in a move to throttle Jewish trade in Palestine, has decided to boycott the Zionist industry. If the delegates of the League's seven member nations approve the Council's decision it would mean the loss of all Middle East outlets for Palestine's rapidly expanding industries. Associated Press.

Notorious Gang Get Long Terms

FIVE MEMBERS OF THE NOTORIOUS WONG KONG-KIT GANG WHICH PROVED SUCH A TERROR TO MACAO AND THE SURROUNDING DISTRICTS DURING THE JAPANESE OCCUPATION APPEARED BEFORE THE MILITARY STANDING COURT YESTERDAY ON CHARGES OF ROBBERY AND CARRYING ARMS WHILE COMMITTING AN OFFENCE AT SOK KU WAN ON NOV. 4.

The accused, Tung Lee, 35, boatman, Leung Yuen, 34, boatman, Ho Kwong, 25, boatman, Yung Kan, 19, and Wong Fuk, 20, all pleaded guilty to both charges and were each sentenced to seven years' hard labour on each charge, the sentences to run concurrently.

A third charge of unlawful possession of four rifles, 1,500 rounds of rifle ammunition, six hand grenades and one coil of fuse wire at Cheung Sha Wan on Nov. 11 was withdrawn after accused had pleaded guilty to the other two charges.

The Court comprised Mr. Leo d'Almada (President), Mr. Horace Lo and Capt. William Penaluna. Mr. F. X. d'Almada appeared for the prosecution, assisted by Mr. R. S. Smith, Sub-insp. Bethell was for the police.

The accused were charged with robbing Wu Chuen of H.K. \$1,000, C.N. \$126,000; six gold rings and other pieces of jewellery and from Chung Yung H.K. \$160, a wrist watch and clothing, and from Tin Wei H.K. \$40 and C.N. \$1,600.

VILLAGER USED AS DECOY. Outlining the case, Mr. F. X. d'Almada said that on Nov. 4 at about 7.30 p.m. the accused entered the house of Wu Chuen, a shopkeeper, tied up his inmates and proceeded to rob Wu of the articles mentioned in the charge. Later one of the villagers at Sok Ku Wan, where the robbery took place, was used as a decoy and several other houses were robbed by the accused. A report was made to Aberdeen police station.

On Nov. 6 a master of a junk who was travelling on a ferry recognised the accused's junk as one having been stolen in Macao in October and reported the matter to the Police. The junk was found by the police in Cheung Sha Wan where it was about to be taken onto a slipway.

Inquiries were made, said Mr. d'Almada, and it was found that the junk had been used to transport Wong Kong-kit's forces to Tung Ku Tau, British territory, and thereafter used in a series of piracies.

SERIOUS VIEW. Mr. d'Almada added that the police were taking a very serious view of the case as reports of such cases were on the increase.

Passing sentence the President, Mr. d'Almada, said: "In my opinion there is no mitigating feature in this robbery and no single point mentioned by the accused as regards sentence to be passed on them is worthy

27 Soldiers Killed

Paris, Dec. 4. Twenty-seven persons—all apparently soldiers—going home on leave—were killed at Trian, seven miles north of Bordeaux, to-day when their four-engined British plane was struck by lightning. The plane, flying from Malta, was caught in a heavy thunder-storm. Before crashing, it lost its tail and left wing, including the outside engine, in mid-air.—Reuter.

TO BE HOME BY CHRISTMAS

With U.S. Seventh Fleet off Manchuria, Dec. 3. Vice-Adm. Daniel Barbey reports that 17,000 personnel from the 137 ships of the Seventh Fleet, which now is deployed along the China and Korean coasts, will have been released by December 10 and will be in the United States by Christmas.

In addition, five squadrons of airplanes, half the Fleet's air arm, will have been released by the same date.

(Several of the Seventh Fleet ships in Hong Kong harbour have started homeward in recent days, including the Ingham, the erstwhile flagship of the South China force, and the Kenneth Whiting, a seaplane tender, and its fleet of four-engined Coronado planes).—Associated Press.

Cairo, Dec. 3. The Egyptian Government has decided to float a £20,000,000 internal loan to finance the 1945-46 cotton crop.—Reuter.

Spanish Monarchists

MADRID, DEC. 4. DEMONSTRATIONS IN FAVOUR OF THE MONARCHY ARE REPORTED FROM VALENCIA AND PAMPLONA.

At Pamplona, which is the stronghold of the Carlists, 1,000 Royalist supporters of Prince Xavier of Bourbon to-day paraded in the main square on the religious Feast of Saint Francis Xavier.

They belong to the section of the Traditionalist Party under the leadership of Senor Manuel Conde, which refuses to accept the Pretender, Don Juan, as the future Spanish king.—Reuter.

THE HONGKONG PRINTING PRESS, LIMITED

An extraordinary general meeting of the above Company will be held at the Company's registered office, Room No. 211, Prince's Building, 2nd floor, 100 House Street, Hong Kong at 12 O'Clock a.m. on Friday the 28th day of December 1946 for the purpose of considering and possibly passing a special resolution for the sale of the assets of the Company and for its winding up.

A formal notice has been posted to all shareholders at their registered addresses. Any shareholder who wishes for further particulars should call at the Company's registered office.

Dated the 3rd day of December 1946. By order of the Board of Directors E. M. D'ALCANTARA XAVIER Secretary.

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Lord Louis' Tribute To 14th Army

A TRIBUTE TO GEN. SLIM AND THE FOURTEENTH ARMY WAS PAID BY ADM. LORD LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN, G.C.V.O., K.C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER SOUTH EAST ASIA COMMAND, IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER OF THE DAY:—

"To-day, the 1st of December, the Fourteenth Army is disbanded, two years since you were first formed and received your official name.

"In the early days you were an unknown, forgotten army, ill-equipped and short of men, fighting in appalling conditions over some of the worst country in the world.

"To-day you are known as the Army that turned the tide of defeat and disaster in South-East Asia and achieved what was thought to be the impossible.

"Your victories in Arakan, at Kohima, Imphal, Kennedy Peak, Mandalay and Meiktila, have passed into history and the words 'Fourteenth Army' have become a synonym of courage and endurance throughout the world.

"From your first battle to your last victory you were commanded by Gen. Slim. It is not for me to sing. Bill Slim's praises to you. No one knows better than you do what his leadership meant to you. Gen. Slim is leaving S.E.A.C. to take up a new appointment and to-day I can pay this tribute to you both. He was worthy of you and you were worthy of him. Good luck to him and to everyone of you."

NEHRU SEES AUCHINLECK

NEW DELHI, DEC. 3. JAWAHARLAL PANDIT NEHRU SAID, BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE YESTERDAY BY AIRPLANE FOR ALLAHABAD, THAT WHILE HERE HE HAD DISCUSSED WITH GEN. SIR CLAUDE AUCHINLECK THE INDIANISATION OF THE INDIAN ARMY. "IN WHICH THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IS MUCH INTERESTED."

Nehru did not go into detail, but he said the main reason for his call here was to call on the General. Nehru also said he expected the British would take quick steps after the Indian elections next spring to turn the Government over to the Indians.

He said the Administration would be expected to form a Central Government "representing the democratic forces within the country" as shown by the elections.

"Then would follow the setting up of a Constituent Assembly which would frame the Government India wanted. He said: 'The Indian National Army activities and the present trial of its officers had the effect of bringing closer the people of India.' He said that tales of the exploits of the Indian National Army, disclosed since the release of censorship and more

Move Against Conscription

Washington, Dec. 3.

House Republican Leader Martin of Massachusetts called on the military committee to start hearings on his bill for an international ban on compulsory military service. He urged the hearings be held before a decision is reached on President Truman's proposed universal military training programme. Sponsors of the President's military training legislation are growing pessimistic over its chances of approval by Congress.

War Secretary Patterson said yesterday that voluntary enlistments alone are not likely to keep the Army up to minimum needed strength while combat veterans are being discharged.

If the nation is to fulfill its goal of homes for 7,000,000 discharged men by July, selective service inductions must continue, he insisted. Otherwise, combat veterans who already have risked their lives must remain in the Army "until those who have not served at all are exempted from any military duty."—Associated Press.

Canton, Dec. 3.

The cold spell which has set in, has given an impetus to demand for winter clothing, and second-hand clothing markets are doing a roaring business.

Everyone who can afford it is wearing a winter suit. An overcoat costs from CN\$80,000 to CN\$200,000, and a European-style suit is a bargain at CN\$75,000.

Recently during the trial of the Indian officers, had caused many younger Indians to question the Gandhian philosophy of non-violence.—Associated Press.

Big Prices At Newmarket Sales

Newmarket, Dec. 4. Bloodstock buyers from all over the world attended Newmarket sales today, including representatives from Russia, Brazil, the Argentine, Australia, Denmark, Sweden and Spain.

Highest bid was 6,300 guineas, paid by R. J. Collins on behalf of Peter Brant for Fairy Cross, a 6-year-old mare by Fairyway out of Crosspatch.

Best lots will start to come into the ring tomorrow, and it is expected that when the final lot is sold on Friday last year's record aggregate for these sales of 508,207 guineas for 609 lots will easily have been exceeded. Over 900 lots are being offered this week-end.

Top price of the day was received for the last lot. The Soler, a 4-year-old colt by Fair Trial out of Canifolia, who had won 10,000 guineas. He went to the Palmerton Stud, which is owned by G. W. Kelly, which was founded on what was formerly the home of the Lord Mayor of Dublin. The Soler will stand there as a stallion. Reuter.

Eight Finish Unt eaten

New York, Dec. 4. Eight college football teams finished the 1945 football season unbeaten and untied. They were Army, which is through for the season and rated as the nation's No. 1 team; Alabama, which won the Rose bowl January 1; Oklahoma A. & M., which meets St. Mary's of California in the Sugar bowl; Arkansas Tech; Oberlin; Gustavus Adolphus, Arizona and Redlands. All but the latter three had eight wins.

In another football development today, the University of Miami was named to meet Holy Cross in the Orange bowl.

For the first time since the season's start, the vote of 116 sports writers in the Associated Press poll was unanimous over Army as the nation's No. 1 team after its sweeping of the Navy. Other nominations follow in order of ranking: Navy, Alabama, Indiana, Oklahoma A. & M., Michigan, St. Mary's, Pennsylvania, Notre Dame, Texas, Southern California, Ohio State, Duke, Tennessee, Louisiana State, Holy Cross, Tulane, Georgia, Wake Forest and Columbia. Associated Press.

'ICI LONDRES' SAID B.B.C.

During his visit to England M. Leon Blum, the former Socialist Prime Minister of France, told a press conference in London that while a prisoner in Germany he listened to the B.B.C.

"I can't express to you," he said, "my feelings as each day I heard coming across the air 'ICI LONDRES', but it was like listening to the opening of a Beethoven symphony. The B.B.C. was one of the chief things that kept us in touch with the world where people wanted to know that there was one place in the world where people wanted to hear the truth."

ALWAYS GREAT

M. Blum said they owed a debt of gratitude to Great Britain which no free nation could ever forget. The salvation of the world was in the hands of Great Britain, and it was the courage and sacrifice of her people which made possible the liberation of mankind.

Britain had never ceased to be a very great power in the world. The material wealth which had been destroyed would be recreated, but under a new order based on social justice.

DE GAULLE'S PLEDGE

Paris, Dec. 4. The new French National Constituent Assembly, after a 12-hour session, approved the nationalisation of the Bank of France and four big deposit banks by 521 votes to 35.

It will set up a National Council of Credit to govern the general credit and investment policy of the country.

General Charles de Gaulle, head of the Government, has pledged to apply the law with determination to give the maximum results. Reuter.

WELSH RUGGER CAP DIES

Cardiff, Dec. 4. Tom Graham died here today at the age of 79. He was "capped" 12 times by Wales and was captain of Newport's famous Rugby team of 1891-92. Reuter.

London, Dec. 4. The Russian Dynamo football team saw their first ice hockey game in England, when visiting Wembley Pool to-night to see a match between two Canadian service sides. Before the game the Dynamos borrowed skates and sticks and had an improvised game of their own. Reuter.

Post Office Chief Steps On Corns

THE FOLLOWING IS THE SUMMARY OF A STATEMENT BY THE DIRECTORS OF CABLE AND WIRELESS LIMITED AND EDITORIAL COMMENT APPEARING IN THE "DAILY SKETCH" YESTERDAY—

CABLE AND WIRELESS LIMITED YESTERDAY COMPARED THEIR "PROGRESSIVE POLICY OF RATE REDUCTIONS" WITH "INCREASES IN POST OFFICE CHARGES FOR CERTAIN SERVICES."

Alm was "to correct any erroneous impression" that might be formed as a result of the statement by Sir Raymond Birchall, Director General Designate of the General Post Office.

This was to the effect that in reaching their decision to take over Cable & Wireless Limited "The United Kingdom Government was swayed not only by a desire to substitute public service for the profit motive but to an equal degree by their determination to have a free hand in providing the cheapest and most efficient possible service which not only the nations of the Commonwealth but the whole world requires."

Here are Company's comparisons of two groups of services.

"WHAT WE DID"

The Company, in spite of war difficulties continued to provide additional facilities and new cheap rate services for the public and carried more than 150,000 messages between released prisoners of war in the Far East and their relatives at home free of charge. It also provided free cabling facilities for children, evacuated overseas during the war.

In 1938 the introduction of a 1s. 3d. maximum rate to all parts of the Empire involved reductions of five to six shillings a word in many cases. The Company failed to get necessary Government approval to a scheme in September last which would eventually give a word rate of 1s. 3d. a word.

"WHAT THEY DID"

In recent years the Penny Post has raised the inland postal rate from one penny to two pence half penny.

The inland parcel rate has been increased. The inland telegram rate has been increased from 6d. for 12 words to one shilling for nine words. There has also been a 15 per cent. surcharge on telephone rentals and cheap telegraph and telephone facilities have been suspended.

The following is editorial comment by the "Daily Sketch"—

A FALLACY

"The Directors of Cable & Wireless last night issued a statement designed to correct an impression likely to arise from a speech made by Sir Raymond Birchall, Director General Designate of the General Post Office that the government are nationalising the Company to ensure a cheaper and more efficient service."

"The statement points out that not only is Cable & Wireless to all intents and purposes already a public utility corporation but it has made great reductions in transmission rates the most notable being the fixing of the 1s. 3d. a word for the Empire service in 1938."

"Since then other charges have been reduced but when attempts have been made to reduce rates to European countries Cable & Wireless have been refused permission because the Company would enter into competition with the General Post Office."

"The recent telecommunications conference which recommended public ownership of the cable service paid warm tributes to the Company's efficiency and enterprise."

"The General Post Office should also remember that the traditional Penny Post is now 2½d. and an inland telegram costs a shilling for nine words."

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"The statement points out that not only is Cable & Wireless to all intents and purposes already a public utility corporation but it has made great reductions in transmission rates the most notable being the fixing of the 1s. 3d. a word for the Empire service in 1938."

"Since then other charges have been reduced but when attempts have been made to reduce rates to European countries Cable & Wireless have been refused permission because the Company would enter into competition with the General Post Office."

"The recent telecommunications conference which recommended public ownership of the cable service paid warm tributes to the Company's efficiency and enterprise."

"The General Post Office should also remember that the traditional Penny Post is now 2½d. and an inland telegram costs a shilling for nine words."

Triangular Soccer Series

In order to further boost Kwong Wah's financial campaign for their new Club House at 474, Nathan Road (kindly granted them by the China Light & Power Co., Ltd.) and also for the cost of equipping their football teams and other side-lines, the "Triangular Series" of football matches has been arranged between H.M.S. "Montclair", Royal Air Force and the Kwong Wah A.A.

This was made possible through the courtesy and wholehearted co-operation of Sillender C. L. Rosenzweig and Lieut. McAllister, the respective representatives of the R.A.F. and H.M.S. "Montclair".

In all, three matches will be played, as follows:—

Dec. 8, 1945. H.M.S. "Montclair" v. R.A.F. Dec. 11, 1945. Kwong Wah v. H.M.S. "Montclair" Dec. 22, 1945. R.A.F. v. Kwong Wah.

All games will be played at the Club de Recreo ground, King's Park, kick off at 4.15 p.m.

In order to give some added interest to the "Series", certain consumers of the China Light & Power Co., Ltd. (Sponsors of the Kwong Wah A.A.) have promised to donate a cup and medals to the winning team.

In the event of a tie, the team which scores the greatest number of goals in the "Series" will be judged the winner.

Tickets will be on sale at \$1.00 each and Servicemen will be charged half price. These can be had at the China Light & Power Co., Ltd.'s Office at Argyle Street or at 474, Nathan Road. There will be a limited number of tickets issued.

Effort To Stop Strike

Washington, Dec. 4. President Truman asked Congress for permanent machinery for handling labour in "important nationwide industries."

He appealed publicly for 225,000 U.I.O. United Automobile workers union members to return to their jobs with General Motors Corporation and urged 700,000 who might be involved in a threatened steel strike to remain at work.

The President proposed creation of fact-finding boards to prevent work stoppages and ban strikes and lockouts for at least 30 days in the steel, automobile, aviation, mining, oil, utilities and communications industries. Associated Press.

CONSTABLE ROBBED OF REVOLVER

A Police constable, No. C930, Luk Chung, was robbed of his revolver in Nam Cheong Street, inside the Yick Kee Tea House at about 9.30 p.m. last night.

He told superiors that he was on duty in Poho Street when he was chased by an unknown Chinese, who threatened him. He ran and the man followed him into the tea house at No. 107, Nam Cheong Street, and disarmed him.

The customers of the tea house took no action as "the man appeared to be very desperate."

MACK'S PREDICTION

St. Petersburg, Fla., Dec. 4. Connie Mack, the grand old man of baseball, who arrived yesterday for a vacation, predicted the St. Louis Cardinals and New York Yankees will be the Major League pennant winners next season. Associated Press.

Bush's Idea

Washington, Dec. 4. Dr. Vannevar Bush told the Senate atomic energy committee yesterday that President Truman made the decision to use the atomic bomb against Japan as a necessary action to destroy war industries, even though it involved the killing of civilians.

Bush, who is director of scientific research development, cautioned the committee that premature outlawing of the atomic bomb could be "disastrous." Associated Press.

JAPAN'S BUDGET

Tokyo, Dec. 4. It was stated in the Diet today that the Budget next year calls for an expenditure of 13,600,000,000 yen.

Finance Minister Shibuzawa told the House that this amount represents a cut of more than 2,000,000,000 yen from the original estimates but still it was 1,500,000,000 above anticipated revenues.

He said that the deficit was due to the decline of about 5,700,000,000 yen in revenue expected from taxes and monopoly profits. Associated Press.

SLAVE LABOURERS RETURN

Shanghai, Dec. 4. The Japanese ship "Meiyu Maru" arrived here today with 1,600 Chinese, half of whom have been slave labourers in Japan and the other half arrested there by the Allied authorities as suspected pro-Japanese collaborators.

The "Meiyu Maru" returned to Japan with 2,229 Japanese soldiers and civilians in the first repatriation from this area. Associated Press.

Yamashita Wants Washington Trip

WASHINGTON, DEC. 4. LIEUT. GENERAL YAMASHITA HAS ASKED THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT TO HALT HIS WAR CRIME TRIAL BEFORE THE AMERICAN MILITARY COMMISSION IN MANILA AND BRING HIM TO WASHINGTON FOR HEARING IN AMERICA'S HIGHEST TRIBUNAL.

YAMASHITA, IN A FORMAL PETITION AIR-MAILED FROM THE PHILIPPINES, ASKED THE SUPREME COURT TO ISSUE A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS REQUIRING GENERAL MACARTHUR TO PRODUCE HIM BEFORE THE TRIBUNAL OR ONE OF ITS JUSTICES.

He asked for a writ of prohibition to halt his trial as a war criminal and requested that he be returned to the status of war prisoner "in conformity with the proviso of the Geneva Convention."

Yamashita contended that the Manila Military Commission lacked authority to try him because "there being no martial law, no government of occupied territory, no active hostilities in the Philippines at the time of the appointment of the Commission, there was no authority to appoint a Commission and it is without jurisdiction."

The Court will act on the petition asking the High Tribunal to review its decision of the Philippine Supreme Court which refused his contention that the Military Commission was illegal and that a Philippine Civil Court should take over his case.

General Yamashita declared at his trial that the Japanese 35th Army group had powers of life and death over war prisoners and he was helpless to intervene, even had he known of abuses.

He said the group operating in the area east of Manila, where many atrocities were committed, had authority to appoint courts martial and to try prisoners and internees.

The day's session produced wrangling between prosecuting and defense attorneys over the contention that some questions asked Yamashita in English had different meanings in Japanese. Associated Press.

Accuses Army Officers

MR. ARTHUR HORNBER, PRODUCTION OFFICER OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF MINE-WORKERS, TO-NIGHT ACCUSED SOME ARMY COMMANDING OFFICERS OF DELAYING THE RELEASE OF MINERS.

"The appeal of the Minister of Fuel for miners in the forces to be released under Class B, should be heeded not only by the men concerned, but also by their Commanding Officers," he said.

"Every post brings us complaints from men willing in many cases to forego their leave to get back to their old employment. The Government must put its own house in order by reducing the authority of the Military Commanders over mine-workers retained in the forces." Reuter.

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Est. 1841
The Hong Kong Dispensary
Alexandra Building.

Indianapolis Captain Faces Charges

WASHINGTON, DEC. 4. THE NAVY ACCUSED CAPT. CHARLES B. MCNAVY III OF NEGLIGENCE AND CULPABLE INEFFICIENCY IN THE LOSS OF THE CRUISER "INDIANAPOLIS" EN ROUTE TO THE PHILIPPINES LAST JULY, AS A GENERAL COURT MARTIAL OPENED YESTERDAY.

He was accused specifically of neglecting to zig-zag the ship through a submarine danger zone and failing to order prompt abandonment of the sinking warship. It was the first disclosure of the charges against him.

The 10,000-ton cruiser had just completed a special high speed run from San Francisco to Guam with atomic bomb materials and was travelling unescorted to Leyte Gulf when the disaster occurred. Loss has been officially attributed to "enemy action" but details never have been explained.

The ship sank within 15 minutes after a terrific explosion.

In an Associated Press interview in a Peleliu hospital shortly afterward, Captain McNavy expressed the belief it was "an underwater torpedo attack." He said then that he ordered the navigator to make certain distress signals. They either never got out or were too weak to be picked up.

The first naval knowledge of the disaster was when a patrol plane far at sea spotted survivors in the water. They had been in the water four days when picked up.

The loss was 880 dead or missing. The 316 lesser casualties included every man aboard. Associated Press.

VOLUNTEER ORDERS

Volunteers orders by Lt. Col. E. J. R. Mitchell, O.B.E., E.D., Commanding H.K.V.D.C. issued last night state:—

1. Clothing (a) A limited supply of K. D. Slacks have been received. These will be issued only to mobilised personnel ex Shamshupo, other than those seconded to Essential Services. (b) All mobilised personnel and those released by the Japanese in 1942-3, who have not yet drawn their winter clothing must do so on or before Saturday, 1200 hrs. 8/12/45. (c) Those in possession of wrong size B. D. Jackets must return same on or before Saturday, 1200 hrs. 15/12/45.

2. Medical (a) The following will report at M.I. Room, H.Q. at 1200 hrs. on Wednesday, 5/12/45. T/Sgt. Assessor, W. F. T/Cpl. Alves, A. M. Cpl. Birkhoff, A. Pte. Alves, E. V. Pte. Gutierrez, M. M. Pte. Ribeiro, A. E. V. (b) Spectacles All mobilised personnel who have been tested for spectacles and whose prescriptions are with the S.M.O., will report to the S.M.O. at the M.I. Room on 6/12/45 or 7/12/45.

RUBBER SHIPMENTS DELAYED

Salmon, Dec. 4. Shipment of rubber from Indonesia to the United States is being delayed by general disorganisation of loading facilities and the inability to round up local labour, due to the threat of Annamite attacks against dock workers. Sheets of crude rubber are waiting to be loaded on the liner "Red Rover." French authorities protested against the arrival of the ship from Manila without cargo. Associated Press.

ITALIAN STALEMATE

Rome, Dec. 3. Signor Alcide De Gasperi, of the Christian Democratic Party, tonight summoned the leaders of Italy's six parties for a conference to attempt to save the projected new Coalition Cabinet.

Clash of the liberals and Socialists over allocation of the portfolio of the interior held up solution of Italy's Government crisis today.

There is much speculation as to whether if the Liberals refuse to co-operate, two ex-Premiers, Orlando and Bonomi, will agree to enter the Government. Reuter.

QUEEN'S THEATRE

Vol. 31403
NOTICE THE CHANGE OF TIME
SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.00, 7.15 & 9.30 P.M.
NORMA SHEPHERD, LESLIE HOWARD
In WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S
"ROMEO AND JULIET"
— COMMENCING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7th —
"THE TRUE GLORY"
Presented by the Governments of Great Britain and the United States.
A BRILLIANT OFFICIAL WAR COMMENTARY, giving a Complete Recapitulation of the Western Front Campaign from the planning of D-Day to the final surrender of the German Forces.
A HISTORIC FILM OF ACTUAL FACTS brought before your eyes—and should be seen by ALL—Children included.
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NAAFI CANTEREN CLUB KOWLOON
"JOCK & TED"
ALL THE WEEK PLAYING TO ARMY UNITS
"JIVE SESSION"
ALL THE WEEK PLAYING TO ARMY UNITS
ALEC HALLS
in
"LAUGH AWHILE"
with
MURIEL AMBLER · HELEN BROTHERS · MARK PRIMHAM
TOMMY SMITH · GEORGE COMEL · GEORGE THOMAS
LES COLLINS · JOHNNY JACKSON
PLAYING HOSPITALS & SHIPS UNTIL SATURDAY
All Services—All Banks—Admission Free
Each Serviceman may bring one Civilian Guest.

ORIENTAL

3 SHOWS: 2.30—7.15—9.15
Commencing To-Day
NOEL COWARD'S
Epic Life Story of a Destroyer
"IN WHICH WE SERVE"
Acclaimed Best Picture of 1943
Both in England and America.
ITS A VERY EXCITING PICTURE

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SEE GRACIE AT HER BEST!
GRACIE SYDNEY
FIELD HOWARD
IN
"SHIPYARD SALLY"
A 20TH CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
— NEXT CHANGE —
"TEXAS RANGERS"

CATHAY

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NOW PLAYING
"DESERT VICTORY"
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SHOWING TO-DAY
at 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 and 9.15 p.m.
TYRONE POWER,
ALICE FAYE,
DON AMBOHE
in
ALEXANDER'S
RAGTIME BAND
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Next Change
LON AMECH
& THE RITZ BROTHERS
in
"THE THREE MUSKETEERS"

LEE THEATRE

TO-DAY & TO-MORROW
At 2.30, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.
ZORINA
in
"I WAS AN ADVENTRESS"
with
RICHARD GREENE
ERICH VON STROHEIM
PETER LORRE
SIG RUMANN
FRITZ FELD
A 20th Century-Fox Picture

MAJESTIC THEATRE

TO-DAY & TO-MORROW
At 2.30, 7.30 & 9.20 p.m.
WALLACE BERRY
in
"WEST POINT OF THE AIR"
An M-G-M Picture
also Latest WAR NEWS
— NEXT CHANGE —
"ZIEGFELD GIRL"

Violence Flares Up Again At Bandoeng

NONE FIT SAYS LASKI

New York, Dec. 4. Professor Harold J. Laski, British Labour Party executive committee head, said in a speech here last night: "There is no nation fit to be trusted with the secret of the atomic bomb."

He declared that the organization for its future use must be international in scope. He also said: "It is significant that one of the major preoccupations of great vested interests is how to keep the secret which is no secret from Russia." Associated Press.

MOSCOW REFUSES

WASHINGTON, DEC. 4. MOSCOW HAS REJECTED THE AMERICAN REQUEST THAT ALL ALLIED TROOPS SHALL BE WITHDRAWN FROM PERSIA BY JANUARY 1.

The State Department, announcing this, said that no reason was given for the Russian rejection.

The official date of the demand from Persia of all occupying troops as of March 2, is months after the end of the Japanese war, according to the terms of the Anglo-Soviet Persian Treaty of 1942.

In a note to Britain, replying to the Russian request, the British Government said that it emphatically reiterated its intention to adhere to the terms of this treaty.

IRANIAN PETITION

Tehran, Dec. 4. The Iranian Government today sent an urgent petition to the Soviet Union to permit the transportation of Iranian troops to Azerbaijan Province in a note declaring the need to restore order and promote the peace and to be used for aggressive measures against the population.

The note, which is regarded in diplomatic sources as conciliatory in tone, expressed the satisfaction of the Iranian Government with the Russian assurances of non-interference in the internal affairs of Iran and assurances of Russian respect for the Tripartite agreement concerning Iran. Associated Press.

U.S. DECISION

WASHINGTON, DEC. 4. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT RUSSIA HAD REJECTED THE AMERICAN REQUEST THAT ALL ALLIED TROOPS BE WITHDRAWN FROM PERSIA BY JANUARY 1.

The Department has proposed to Moscow the publication of its note received here over the week-end.

Officials here presume that the withdrawal date for the British and Russian troops in Iran still stands on March 2.

President Truman said that the United States intends to withdraw its troops by January 1. Associated Press.

DEATH OF BARON IWASAKI

Tokyo, Dec. 4. The newspaper "Yomiuri" reported today that Baron Koyata Iwasaki, 66, head of the family which controlled the Mitsubishi interests and one of Japan's richest men, died in his Tokyo home on December 2.

Iwasaki graduated from the Tokyo Imperial and Cambridge Universities.

He retired from all his posts with the recent dissolution of the Zaibatsu. His father founded the Iwasaki family financial dynasty. Associated Press.

British Action At The Hague

LONDON, DEC. 4. THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR AT THE HAGUE HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO SEEK THE VIEW ON THE WHOLE PROBLEM OF THE EVACUATION OF WOMEN, CHILDREN AND SICK PEOPLE FROM JAVA, SAID THE UNDER-SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR. HECTOR MCNEIL, IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS TODAY.

Mr. McNeil was replying to a question by Major Guy Lloyd, (Conservative) who asked if he had seen the appeal from the Chairman of the "Batavian Shores" for the evacuation as quickly as possible from Java of 200,000 people, "all said to be in danger of being kidnapped or butchered."

The Under-Secretary added: "Meanwhile, we are urgently investigating certain possibilities relating to reception areas and shipping facilities."

Major Lloyd said it was not a question of getting the people

BATAVIA, DEC. 4. IN A NEW FLAREUP OF VIOLENCE IN JAVA, INDONESIANS RAIDED EUROPEAN HOMES IN BANDOENG AND KIDNAPED FOUR PERSONS LAST NIGHT AFTER SETTING FIRE TO SEVERAL HOMES, A BRITISH OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT SAID. THE NATIONALITY OF THE EUROPEANS WAS NOT DISCLOSED.

ELSEWHERE LITTLE HEAVY FIGHTING WAS REPORTED. R.A.F. PLANES DISPERSED A FORCE OF INDONESIANS ATTACKING A BRITISH NATIVE COMPANY IN THE BANDOENG AREA, AND THE BRITISH CRUISER "SUSSEX" SHELLED AN AREA WHERE INDONESIANS WERE REPORTED MASSING EAST AND SOUTHEAST OF SEMARANG.

"A misunderstanding between the occupation troops and the people" was advanced by Sutan Shahrir, Prime Minister of the Indonesian Government, as the reason for the mass slaying of survivors of the British plane which crashed near Batavia on Nov. 11.

In a statement to the Allied commander, Lieut. General Sir Philip Christison, the Premier expressed regret for the happenings in Tjakung, Bekasi and Ambon.

The plane with five Englishmen and 20 Indians aboard crashed in a rice paddy field. Apparently all survived but two Indians, who were killed at nearby Tjakung, and probably all the others were slain at Bekasi.

Dutch women and children were killed by Indonesians. Shells fired into their camps at Ambon. TENSE BUT FAIRLY QUIET. Meanwhile, the situation throughout Java continued tense but fairly quiet.

A British army spokesman asked about the movement of Japanese troops in central and east Java towards Semarang and Surabaya for shipment out of the country, said it "depended on the good will of the Indonesians."

At conferences with the Indonesian authorities in Batavia, Indonesian

leaders indicated that they are as eager as the British to get rid of the Japanese, but it remains to be seen whether they have the power to aid in transporting the Japanese to collection centres or to prevent factionists from attacking the Japanese, many of whom earlier handed their weapons to the Indonesians.

At Bandoeng and in west Java, generally, the British regard the situation as under control and expect no difficulty in removing the Japanese when shipping is available.

Australia, meanwhile, is the first country to make an offer of large-scale help to the Dutch in Java, while nerves, according to a Dutch official, have reached breaking-point.

UNDER CONTROL. A telegram sent to Australia's liaison officer in Batavia by Arthur Calwell, Australian Minister of Immigration, said that the Australian Government was willing to put camps supplemented by military tents at the disposal of the Dutch who must themselves provide transport and maintenance.

The Dutch have appealed to the United States to help with transport for about 50,000 persons. Associated Press.

Should Women Retire Before Men?

LONDON, DEC. 4. THE QUESTION OF THE RETIRING AGE FOR MEN AND WOMAN WAS RAISED WHEN WOMAN CIVIL SERVANTS HELD A SPECIAL CONFERENCE HERE TODAY TO DISCUSS THE APPLICATION OF THE PROPOSED NATIONAL INSURANCE SCHEME TO CIVIL SERVANTS.

DR. W. MELAINE, ASSISTANT GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE AMALGAMATED ENGINEERING UNION, SAID: "IN FUTURE, MEN WILL HAVE TO GO ON WORKING UNTIL THEY ARE 65 UNLESS WE CAN CHANGE THE PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY OF THE COUNTRY."

"If we all want new houses, refrigerators and cars, to say nothing of pensions and benefits, then somebody has got to do the work and we shall all have to go on working a bit longer."

"The people of this country are younger today at 60 and 65 than they used to be, and to retire at 60 is not a prospect to which I look forward with any degree of pleasure."

"Women, I think, should retire at 60 as now. As a general rule, women in industry who are still working at that age are single women. I ask myself, do I want a typist knocking about my office at the age of 63 and my reply is 'No,'" Dr. Melaine added.

WOMAN'S VIEW. The women's point of view was expressed by Miss Elsie Godwin, Staff-Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, who said that she had found it just as trying to have old men about the office as it was to have old women.

"Women should work until they were 65 if men worked to that age," she added.

Hurley Being Made Into Stooge

WASHINGTON, DEC. 4. AN ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMAN TODAY CHARGED THE REPUBLICANS OF INJECTING POLITICS INTO THE FOREIGN POLICY CONTROVERSY, TOUCHED OFF BY THE RESIGNATION OF MAJOR GENERAL PATRICK HURLEY, AS AMBASSADOR TO CHINA. THE NEWLY DESIGNATED HOUSE DEMOCRATIC WHIP, REPRESENTATIVE SPARKMAN, OF ALABAMA, IN AN INTERVIEW SAID: "THERE IS NO NECESSITY TO GET ALL EXCITED ABOUT GENERAL HURLEY'S STATEMENTS."

"The Senate Foreign Relations Committee will do the necessary job of checking and if chastisement for the State Department is needed the Committee will provide it."

However, the influential Republican Representative Mundt, of South Dakota, recommended a widespread probe asserting that the Senate group would "hush up" any information which might reflect unfavourably on the Administration.

Mundt said particularly that he wants the House Un-American Activities Committee to question Hurley on the statement that some sections of the State Department are "endeavouring to support Communism generally, as well as specifically in China."

AN INVESTIGATION. Sparkman agreed there would be an investigation of assertions by Hurley but added "Naturally some Republicans are trying to have all sorts of investigation instead. They would like to keep this criticism running for political reasons because they know it breeds down faith in the Administration."

The un-American Activities Committee, of which Mundt is a member, has invited Hurley to testify, and the Chairman said that Hurley had no intention of doing so after his resignation from the Foreign Relations Committee.

Hurley earlier told newsmen he was willing to appear before any

Opium Ban

Shanghai, Dec. 4. The city government today stated its decision to stamp out opium smoking by June next year and requested addicts to register within the next two months and pledge themselves to "cure the evil habit through self-awakening."

The government announced that those still addicted by next June would "be dealt with by law" by forced cure and incarceration. Associated Press.

Indonesian Terms

BATAVIA, DEC. 4. AT HIS FIRST PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY, PREMIER SJAHRIR, REITERATED THAT DUTCH RECOGNITION OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE INDOONESIAN REPUBLIC MUST PROCEED NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT "DOMINION STATUS" WOULD NOT SATISFY THE PEOPLE.

After recognition of its independence, there are many things we can discuss, such as economic co-operation," he said. But Premier Sjaahrir made it clear that he could not accept Dutch economic rule.

He accepted in good faith the declaration of the Allied Commander-in-Chief that the British did not intend to interfere in the political dispute but the statements by the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Bevin, and the Premier, Mr. Attlee, had caused misunderstandings, he said. Reuter.

GEN. SLIM'S NEW POST

LONDON, DEC. 4. GEN. SIR WILLIAM SLIM, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE 14TH ARMY IN BURMA, IS TO BE COMMANDANT OF THE IMPERIAL DEFENCE COLLEGE, REOPENING OF WHICH WAS ANNOUNCED FROM DOWNING STREET TODAY.

The College was established in 1927 to train officers and civilians in the broadest aspects of imperial strategy.

Three senior instructors at the College will be Rear-Admiral G. H. E. Russell, who became Assistant Director of Plans at the Admiralty and served brilliantly in the Mediterranean; Major-Gen. J. F. Whitley, who saw service in the Middle East and north-west Europe; and Air Vice-Marshal Sir Hugh Lloyd, the Welshman who was responsible for the brilliant air defence of Malta. Reuter.

Sydney, Dec. 4. Miners have decided to cease work in all New South Wales pits, which produce two-thirds of Australia's coal, while meetings of merchant seamen in all Australian ports have agreed not to man ships carrying coal or steel.

These decisions threaten to bring trains and trams to a standstill and cut the gas and electric power. Reuter.

SHORTLY UPSET

TOKYO, DEC. 4. MATSUTARO SHORIKI, PRESIDENT OF THE TOKYO DAILY "YOMIURI HOCHI" WHO WAS NAMED IN THE NEW WAR CRIMINALS SUSPECT LIST TODAY BLAMED THE MILITARISTS' CONTROL OF NEWSPAPERS, FOR JAPAN'S PLIGHT AND DECLARED: "IF THERE HAD BEEN FREEDOM OF THE PRESS THERE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN WAR."

He said he had done nothing to warrant his trial by the Allies, charging that the employees who openly sought his removal in a strike had given false reports about him to General MacArthur's headquarters.

"There must be some misunderstanding," said the 60-year old executive. "I feel no responsibility as a war criminal."

He said the militarists began dictating their policy to the newspapers ten years ago before they embarked on their aggression in China. Then they wielded their power over the press by telling propaganda either to follow a propaganda line or suffer in the amount of newspaper allowed them.

Military control was more drastic during the Pacific war and Shoriki said that, at a meeting, the chief editors were told by Major Masamune, Chief of the Army Propaganda Bureau, that the newspapers were "tools of the military." He added that he had blocked the proposal by the military for a moratorium of a number of newspapers to facilitate military control of the press. Associated Press.

Jerusalem, Dec. 4. The British authorities released 140 Jews from custody today after they had been detained since Nov. 26 for breaking the curfew order. Reuter.

Arrest Order Shocks Elderly Jap Prince

TOKYO, DEC. 4. THE NEW ORDER FOR ARRESTS IN JAPAN STRUCK SWIFTLY AT A BEWILDERED OLD MAN WITH BRISTLING MUSTACHE STANDING IN THE RUINS OF HIS BOMBED MANSION.

IMPERIAL PRINCE MORIMASA NASIMOTO, 77, WHO DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS A FIELD-MARSHAL WITHOUT A COMMAND, A PRINCE WITHOUT INFLUENCE AND A SHINTO NATIONALIST WITH LITTLE TO DO, SOUGHT EXPLANATION WHY HE WAS THE FIRST MEMBER OF THE IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD NAMED AS A SUSPECTED WAR CRIMINAL.

"I have no idea why I was named and I am very much surprised," he told an Associated Press correspondent, in his first interview with a foreign newspaperman. "Do you know why?"

The Japanese Government subsequently moved through its Foreign Minister Yoshida to seek a reprieve from arrest for the aged prince. Yoshida made the request personally at Allied Headquarters.

Field-Marshal Shunroku Hata declared bluntly today, "I take responsibility for all operations" while he was Commander-in-Chief of Japanese forces in China.

Hata, who is a new addition to General MacArthur's list of alleged war criminals, told the Associated Press: "I expected it. I feel responsibility for the war."

He offered no defence for his career in China or elsewhere. He led the Japanese troops into Shanghai in 1938 and commanded all forces in China until December, 1943.

PROUD OF IT. Ryoichi Sasakawa, former President of the ultra-nationalist Kokyukai Domei, was reported today as saying that the new list of war criminals comprises "Japan's first-class persons" and that he was proud to be on the list.

He said he had been anticipating arrest since the war ended and declared he had asserted frequently in speeches: "With my neck cleaned I am waiting for the allied army to name me as one of the war criminals. To be named by the allied army as a war criminal is eloquent proof that I devoted my whole self to the prosecution of the war."

GETTING READY. Meanwhile Joseph Keenan, head of the war crimes trials in Japan, is scheduled to leave San Francisco by airplane today for Tokyo with 22 attorneys and a corps of secretaries.

He listed war criminals in these categories: those responsible for starting the wars in China and the Pacific; those responsible for military crimes in violation of the rules of war; those responsible for mistreatment of prisoners.

He said the trials will be under United States criminal law since the initial attack in the Pacific war was against American territory at Pearl Harbour. Associated Press.

GRID-IRON PLAY-OFF

Chicago, Dec. 4. The National Professional Football League is awaiting the outcome of the unpredictable New York Giants' game against the Washington Redskins before making plans for a world's professional gridiron championship playoff. A Redskins victory will give them the eastern division title. A Giant win will necessitate a playoff if Philadelphia beats Boston's Yanks. The Cleveland Rams are undisputed holders of the western division title. Associated Press.

WAR VETERAN PASSES. Madrid, Dec. 4. Brig-Gen. Saturnino Martin Gomez, 70, last Spanish defender of the Philippines against the Americans in 1899, died Sunday. Gomez refused to believe the surrender report and continued resistance a year after the end of the Spanish-American war. Associated Press.

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Austria's Plight

London, Dec. 4. The British Government has proposed to the Soviet Union, the United States and France a general reduction of Allied occupation troops in Austria, learns Reuter's diplomatic correspondent.

The object of the proposal is to relieve the burden placed on Austrian economy. Reuter.

Compensation Plan by Jap Government

TOKYO, DEC. 4. JAPANESE ASSETS IN MANCHURIA, CHINA, KOREA, FORMOSA, SAKHALIN AND THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC AREAS ARE ESTIMATED AT APPROXIMATELY 110 BILLION YEN AND THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO REIMBURSE INVESTORS FOR THE LOSS OF THESE ASSETS. THE FINANCE MINISTER, KEIZO SHIBUZAWA SAID TODAY.

The estimate was given to the Kyodo news agency in response to a question whether compensation or relief of Japanese assets lost or damaged abroad would be given.

The information is also important in connection with the reparations payments since it is assumed that Japanese assets abroad will be seized for reparations.

The Minister said that on the basis of invested Japanese capital, it is estimated that Japanese assets in the Far East included: Manchuria 10 billion, China 19,788 million, Korea 7,105 million, Formosa 2,327 million, Sakhalin 1,200 million. Southern Pacific Areas 3,500 million and others 750 million Yen. Associated Press.

Senator's Two-Day Filibuster

WASHINGTON, DEC. 4. ADMINISTRATION FORCES TO DAY SOUGHT TO PERSUADE SOME REPUBLICAN SENATORS TO DROP THEIR APPARENTLY HOPELESS EFFORT TO AMEND LEGISLATION OUTLINING UNITED STATES DUTIES AS A MEMBER OF THE UNITED NATIONS. ACTING MAJORITY LEADER, LISTER HILL, OF ALABAMA, AFTER A SOLID WEEK OF DEBATE SAID TODAY: "WE ARE GOING TO DO OUR BEST TO GET THIS WHOLE THING THROUGH TODAY."

However, he faces determined efforts by two freshmen, Republican Donnell, of Missouri, and Morse, of Oregon, for unlimited discussion in the entire subject.

Donnell has already talked for two days on his proposed amendment requiring a two-thirds Senate approval of any agreement by the President to furnish American troops for an International Security Force, maintaining it is a treaty and should be ratified by the Senate, whereas the Bill calls for a majority vote only in the Senate and the House.

Another amendment proposed by Senator Wheeler would require the President to ask Congress for authority each time the Security Council wants American troops to take part in action against aggression.

RADIO

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 5th 1945.

STUDIO-PROGRAMME OF POPULAR BALLADS. BY L.A.C. ALLAN WYLD, R.A.F. (BARTON)

2.30 HONGKONG broadcasting on a frequency of 640 Kilocycles and from 12.30 to 1.30 p.m., 0.30 to 7.30 p.m. and 9.00 to 11.00 p.m. also on 2.57 Megacycles.

H.K.T.

12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.

12.35 p.m.—New Mayfair Orchestra and Charles Kullman (Tenor).

1.00 p.m.—News A. announcements.

1.10 p.m.—Piano Duets by Rawles and Landauer.

1.35 p.m.—Film Selections.

2.00 p.m.—Close Down.

2.30 p.m.—A Programme of Spanish Music.

7.00 p.m.—London Radio—News.

7.15 p.m.—Mantovani and His Orchestra.

7.30 p.m.—Studio—Programme of popular ballads by L. O. Allan Wyld, R.A.F., accompanied at the Piano by E. O. Neil Brown.

8.00 p.m.—Classical music hour.

9.00 p.m.—London Radio—News.

9.05 p.m.—"Music Time"—R.S.B.A.

9.05 p.m.—B.C.O. Symphony Orchestra.

10.00 p.m.—Duets from the World's Grand Opera.

10.15 p.m.—Opera—Balletto No. 2 in 3 Acts, Op. 88. Balletto No. 3 in 4 Acts, Op. 47. Grand Duets, Op. 11.

11.00 p.m.—Classical music hour.

Programmes marked "R.S.B.A." are recorded specially for Service Entertainment by the Department of National Service Entertainment.